SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: We give them preference. They are giv»n priority.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Corruption in administration

† 66. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the general public of the country has to spend Rs. 21,068 crores annually in the form of bribe to solve their general problems;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government have reformed the administrative functioning to remove corruption from the administration during the past years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) A Private study published by Transparency International India in alliance with Centre for Media Studies, New Delhi under the title "India Corruption Study, 2005 to improve Governance" has stated that the general public in India has to spend Rs. 21,068 crores as bribes for various public services.

(c) and (d) Several steps have been initiated in the past years to combat corruption and to improve administrative functioning. Important among these steps are: enacting the Right to Information Act, 2005 and Whistle Blowers Resolution 2004; the pro-active involvement of Ministry/

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Department through Annual Action Plan on Vigilance; issue of comprehensive instructions on transparency in tendering and contracting processes by the CVC; enactment of CVC Act and, strengthening the CBI for effective discharge of its anti corruption functions, etc. Moreover, the Government organizations are constantly engaged in improving their functioning through e-Governance, issue of Citizen Charters and simplification of procedures and systems, which also aim at eradicating corruption by improving transparency and accountability.

Target of Golden Quadrilateral

*67. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of achievement of targets by end of the year 2005 of first phase (NHDP) of road development plan—Golden Quadrilateral, involving four or six laning of 5,846 km of National Highways between Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata;

(b) the percentage of work that remains to be done and its location; and

(c) the steps Government are adopting to achieve completion by the target date?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) 92% length of Golden Quadrilateral under National Highways Development Project is likely to be completed by December, 2005.

(b) The Corridor-wise status of Golden Quadrilateral including length of National Highways where work remains to be done as on 30.06.2005, is enclosed as Statement-I (See below).

(c) The steps taken by the Government to achieve the completion target is enclosed as Statement-Il.